

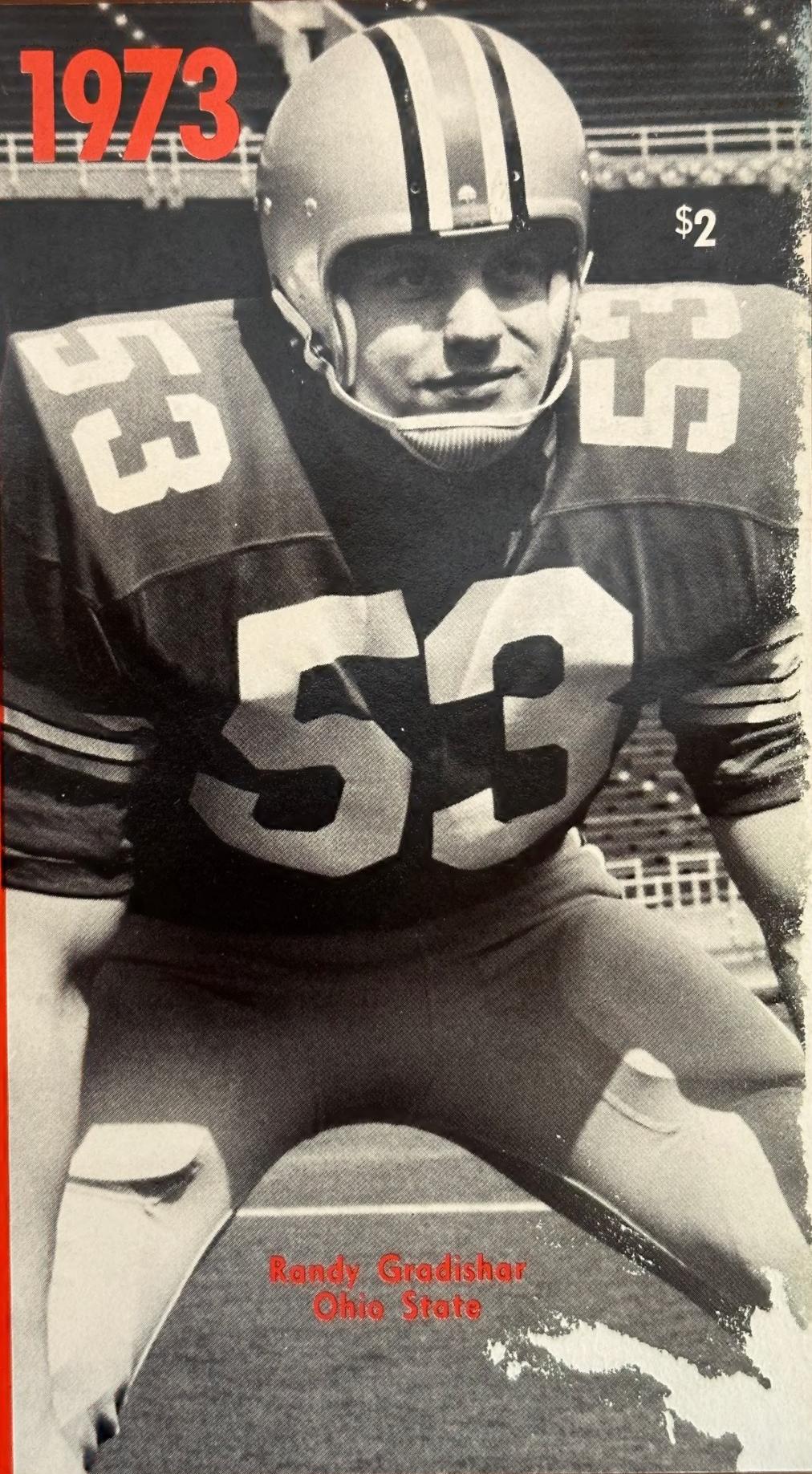
Official COLLEGIATE

Guide

FOOTBALL

1973

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Randy Gradishar
Ohio State

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS, 1924-1972

Don't be surprised if Southern Cal wins the unofficial national championship in . . . 1977. Coach John McKay's Trojans seem to win it all every five years — 1962, 1967 and 1972. Both wire services, Associated Press (writers) and United Press International (coaches), voted USC No. 1, as did the Football Writers' Association of America.

It was USC's fifth national crown (the first two, 1928 and 1931, were coached by Howard Jones). Only Notre Dame with eight has won more since 1924. And Pacific-8 teams have won seven, runnerup to the Big Ten's 15.

In terms of national titles won, the top coaches since 1924 have been Notre Dame's Frank Leahy and Minnesota's Bernie Bierman, with four each. McKay is one of five coaches who have won three national titles each.

The AP poll was originated in 1936, the UPI poll in 1950. Prior to the polls, the Rissman (1924-30) and Knute Rockne (1931-35) trophies symbolized the championships. Here's the list of titlists:

1972—Southern Cal	1960—Minnesota	1948—Michigan	1936—Minnesota
1971—Nebraska	1959—Syracuse	1947—Notre Dame	1935—SMU
1970—Nebraska, Texas	1958—LSU	1946—Notre Dame	1934—Minnesota
1969—Texas	1957—Auburn, Ohio St.	1945—Army	1933—Michigan
1968—Ohio State	1956—Oklahoma	1944—Army	1932—Michigan
1967—Southern Cal	1955—Oklahoma	1943—Notre Dame	1931—Southern Cal
1966—Notre Dame	1954—Ohio St., UCLA	1942—Ohio State	1930—Notre Dame
1965—Ala., Mich. St.	1953—Maryland	1941—Minnesota	1929—Notre Dame
1964—Alabama	1952—Michigan State	1940—Minnesota	1928—Southern Cal
1963—Texas	1951—Tennessee	1939—Texas A&M	1927—Illinois
1962—Southern Cal	1950—Oklahoma	1938—TCU	1926—Stanford
1961—Alabama	1949—Notre Dame	1937—Pittsburgh	1925—Dartmouth
			1924—Notre Dame

NATIONAL RATINGS, 1936-72

Notre Dame and Oklahoma have been the nation's most successful majors in 37 years of wire-service polls. Counting 10 points for each first, 9 for second and so on, the Irish have 151 points, the Sooners 120. Over the last 10 seasons, five teams and coaches have dominated the rankings: Texas (Darrell Royal) 51 points, Alabama (Bear Bryant) 50, Nebraska (Bob Devaney) 46, Notre Dame (Ara Parseghian) 45 and Southern Cal (John McKay) 40. The leaders:

Notre Dame	151	Ohio State	99	Tennessee	86	Army	61
Oklahoma	120	Texas	99	Southern Cal	76	LSU	60
Alabama	100	Michigan	93	Mich. State	72	Minnesota	57

add to Big Ten uncertainty. The only pure rookie is Lee Corso, whose Louisville team ranked 18th in the nation last year, setting up his jump to Indiana. The other "newcomers" are Alex Agase, switching to Purdue from Northwestern; Johnny Pont, shifting from Indiana to Northwestern, and Dennis Stoltz, Michigan State assistant who replaced Duffy Daugherty.

Life will be more uncertain in the Big Eight, too, with new coaches running the show at Nebraska, Oklahoma, Iowa State and Oklahoma State. The leaders, Oklahoma and Nebraska, both were hit by graduation, which is a handicap sometimes met in this league by redshirts coming up.

Iowa State's Earle Bruce, another of Woody Hayes' ex-aides, has inherited a good nucleus as Johnny Majors' replacement. Bob Devaney finally retired to the Nebraska athletic directorship, naming Tom Osborne as his coaching successor. Ex-assistant Barry Switzer is the new chief at Oklahoma. And former aide Jim Stanley is Oklahoma State's new head man.

Does it come as a surprise that Bear Bryant is expected to have another winner at Alabama? Of course not. The Crimson Tide has dropped only one regular season game in two years. Principal competition should come